

CHAPTER NO. 825

HOUSE BILL NO. 433

By Representatives Patton, McDaniel, Eldridge, Litz, Yokley, Coleman

Substituted for: Senate Bill No. 282

By Senator Williams

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39, Chapter 17, Part 1 and Title 49, Chapter 7, Part 1, relative to use of false credentials in higher education.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 7, Part 1, is amended by adding the following new section:

Section 49-7-124.

(a) A person commits the offense of misrepresentation of academic credentials who, knowing that the statement is false and with the intent to secure employment at or admission to an institution of higher education in Tennessee, represents, orally or in writing, that such person:

(1) Has successfully completed the required course work for and has been awarded one (1) or more degrees or diplomas from an accredited institution of higher education;

(2) Has successfully completed the required course work for and has been awarded one (1) or more degrees or diplomas from a particular institution of higher education; or

(3) Has successfully completed the required course work for and has been awarded one (1) or more degrees or diplomas in a particular field or specialty from an accredited institution of higher education.

(b) Misrepresentation of academic credentials is a Class A misdemeanor.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2003, the public welfare requiring it.

PASSED: May 19, 2004



JIMMY NAIFEH, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



JOHN S. WILDER
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

APPROVED this 8th day of June 2004



PHIL BREDESEN, GOVERNOR